

church group. His dedication to our community has prepared him to be a leader in his future career. The leadership skills he has learned through Boy Scouts will continue to benefit our community.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Samuel for becoming an Eagle Scout. We are proud and confident of his continued success and thank him for his dedication to making our community a better place.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STEELWORKERS LOCAL 8888 IN NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the United Steelworkers (USW) Local 8888, which represents nearly 10,000 shipbuilders at the Newport News Shipyard in Newport News, Virginia. These dedicated men and women build and repair our Navy's nuclear aircraft carriers and nuclear-powered submarines at this shipyard, which is the largest private sector employer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The birth of this local union began with a secret ballot vote on January 31, 1978. While they received their charter from USW months later on September 15, 1978, it took the courageous efforts of thousands of workers to carry forward a difficult campaign to ultimately win recognition by the shipyard. Since that time, USW Local 8888 has advanced economic progress for tens of thousands of shipyard workers and has made the Newport News community more vibrant.

The union's advocacy has produced contracts over many years with higher wages, improved health benefits and better pensions. The USW Local 8888 contract established a health and safety committee, and created a fairer workplace by providing for wage progression and a grievance and arbitration procedure. The first six years following the first contract between Local 8888 and the shipyard resulted in more than a half-billion dollars in additional wages and benefits. The USW's current 52-month collective bargaining agreement with Huntington Ingalls Industries—the current owner of the shipyard—will increase average wages and benefits by over \$15,000 per worker.

These gains did not come easily. Forty years ago, the shipyard workers had been represented by the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association (PSA)—which was a small association that many workers viewed as a company union. Wages and pensions for these shipbuilders were lower than those at other shipyards in the country. Some workers were stuck in jobs that never had a pay raise. The PSA held no membership meetings, no election of shop stewards, and did not have a safety clause in its "contract." Workers wanted and demanded a better deal.

A group of shipyard workers reached out to the United Steelworkers to try to secure a stronger and more progressive union to represent them. Known as the "front four," Oscar Pretlow, Eddie Coppedge, Ellis Cofield, and

WT Hayes were amongst the early organizers. The effort to build support was not easy. The company sought to terminate those who were organizing support for the USW as a way to discourage support. However, in January 1978 thousands of shipyard workers voted through a secret ballot election to affiliate with the USW.

But the shipyard owner at that time—Tenneco—refused to recognize or bargain with USW, and it joined with the PSA to challenge the validity of election before the National Labor Relations Board. These delaying tactics were intended to wear down support for the union the workers had freely chosen.

A year to the day after the vote in January 1979, workers went on strike to demand recognition. The strike lasted 82 days while workers braved the cold on picket lines outside the shipyard gates and hostile police action on the streets. "88, Close the Gate!" became their rallying cry during this historic strike. The shipyard workers faced not only a deep-pocketed and determined employer, they faced a hostile Governor, and a Department of the Navy that continued to provide cashflow to the shipyard despite work coming to a halt during the strike—all while taking on this battle in a right-to-work state.

Their solidarity was tested many times; however, the shipyard workers received strike benefits from the USW, and many union members across Virginia and the country joined their picket lines. Ultimately, the NLRB and courts upheld the validity of the union election, and the company was obligated to bargain with USW.

Local 8888 has been blessed with strong leaders over the past 40 years including presidents Lucky Howard, Wayne Crosby, Edward "Eddie" Coppedge, Russ Axsom, Ray Coppedge, Thomas Crudup, Alton Glass, Arnold Outlaw, and its current President Charles Spivey. The union has also not forgotten those who led the original struggle, and the USW union hall in Newport News is named after Oscar Pretlow—one of the original "front four."

Mr. Speaker, the sacrifices of those shipbuilders who fought to have a union of their choosing in the late 1970s has borne fruit for the past 40 years and has paved the way for a brighter and safer future for those who come to work at the shipyard today. As the members of USW Local 8888 gather this weekend to celebrate the 40 years since they received their charter from USW, I want to commend and thank them for their tireless work representing the tens and thousands of shipbuilders and shipyard employees at the Newport News Shipyard. Their work has bettered the lives and working conditions for these workers and their families.

TRIBUTE TO KIM BAKKEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Kim Bakkey, CEO of HomeServices of Iowa, for being named a 2018 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

For 19 years, the Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to iden-

tify a standout group of women who have made a significant difference in business, civic and philanthropic endeavours throughout the Greater Des Moines Area.

For two years, Kim has been the CEO of HomeServices, but before that her work was not going unnoticed. In 2010 she was named the Business Record CFO of the Year and in 2016 and 2017 was recognized by a trade publication as being one of the most powerful people in residential real estate. Being an active parent to three daughters is a passion of hers on top of her work with the West Des Moines School Scholarship Program and Blank Children's Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Kim Bakkey in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Kim on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing Ms. Bakkey the very best.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
JAMES CAMP

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleague, DAVID VALADAO, to recognize Mr. James "Jim" Camp, a philanthropist and community leader from Bakersfield, California. Jim will be recognized as the Kern County Fair's Person of the Year for his lifetime of commitment to bettering the quality of life in Kern County.

Jim is a tireless advocate for promoting and supporting the community he calls home. He has served three terms on the Board of Directors for the Kern County Fair—first appointed by Governor Pete Wilson and later appointed twice by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. As a member of the Board of Directors, Jim worked year-round to fulfill the Kern County Fair's mission of providing a safe and friendly environment for educational, cultural, and entertainment experiences celebrating the accomplishments of the Kern County community. During his time with the Kern County Fair, Jim also participated on the Finance and Livestock Committee, serving two terms as Chairman of the Board.

More than anything else, Jim has distinguished himself as a man with a heart for the Bakersfield community. Over the years, Jim has paid his personal successes forward, donating to charitable causes across Bakersfield. In particular, Jim and his wife, Beverly, extended their generosity to help fund Bakersfield's Memorial Hospital's Grossman Burn Center. Jim has also been an active member of the Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK), serving the community service organization in a variety of roles since 2007, the most prominent being his tenure as chairman of CAPK's Board of Directors from 2013 to 2015. Through his work with CAPK, Jim helped to provide critical services to Kern County's most disadvantaged, organizing and participating in events that helped to reduce poverty and meet critical needs such as education, housing, and healthcare.